

Patent claims

- 1 A conveyor-technology device for processing printed products, with a guide means
5 and conveyor means movable along the guide means for conveying printed products
which are fed by way of feed conveyors, as well as with holding means which serve for
the temporary fixing of printed products in a manner such that these at least in
regions may be conveyed against the effect of gravity, wherein the guide means is
spatially curved and has an essentially helically designed section.
- 2 A conveyor-technology device according to claim 1, wherein the feed conveyors are
10 arranged in the region of the helical section of the guide means.
- 3 A conveyor-technology device according to patent claim 2, wherein the feed conveyors
are arranged essentially perpendicular to an axis A of the helical section.
- 4 A conveyor-technology device according to patent claim 2 or 3, wherein the helical
section consists of several, equal sections.
- 15 5 A conveyor-technology device according to one of the patent claims 1 to 4, wherein
the feed conveyors are arranged in several parallel planes.
- 6 A conveyor-technology device according to one of the preceding claims, wherein the
guide means in the region of the feed conveyors is designed in a straight, convex or
concave manner.
- 20 7 A conveyor-technology device according to one of the preceding claims, wherein the
ends of the helical section are connected to one another via a return.
- 8 A conveyor-technology device according to claims 7, wherein the return is arranged
within or outside the helical section.
- 9 A conveyor-technology device according to one of the preceding claims, wherein a
25 extraction device is present.
- 10 A conveyor-technology device according to one of the preceding claims, wherein the
guide means comprises at least one switch which serves for the active connection of
further guide means or for coupling an external device.
- 11 A conveyor-technology device according to one of the preceding claims, wherein at
30 least one conveyor member is arranged along the guide means, which serves for

driving the conveyor means along the whole guide means or along a section of the guide means.

- 12 A conveyor-technology device according to one of the preceding claims, wherein the conveyor means along the guide means have a constant or changeable distance.
- 5 13 A conveyor-technology device according to one of the preceding claims, wherein the conveyor means are actively connected to one another.
- 14 A conveyor-technology device according to one of the preceding claims, wherein the guide means is a guide channel with a longitudinally running opening which serves for guiding a bearing means arranged in the inside.
- 10 15 A conveyor-technology device according to claim 14, wherein the guide channel has an essentially C-shaped cross section.
- 16 A conveyor-technology device according to one of the patent claims 1 to 13, wherein the guide means is a guide rail which serves for guiding a conveyor means along a guide surface arranged at the outside.
- 15 17 A conveyor-technology device according to one of the preceding claims, wherein the conveyor means is rotatable about a first and/or about a second axis.
- 18 A conveyor-technology device according to one of the preceding claims, wherein the conveyor means comprises a saddle for gathering printed products.
- 20 19 A conveyor-technology device according to one of the preceding claims, wherein the conveyor means comprises a separating plate which serves for laterally guiding the printed products.
- 20 A conveyor-technology device according to one of the preceding claims, wherein the conveyor means comprises a rim for collating printed products.
- 25 21 A conveyor-technology device according to one of the preceding claims, wherein the conveyor means comprises a holding means which serves for the temporary fixing of printed products in a manner such that these may be conveyed against gravity.
- 22 A conveyor-technology device according to patent claim 21, wherein the holding means in the opened condition have a funnel effect, which supports the collection of printed products.

- 5 23 A method for processing printed products with which the printed products to be processed are supplied to a conveyor-technology device and conveyed on this by way of conveyor means and are led into the active region of at least one processing station, wherein they are at least temporarily fixed by way of holding means, wherein the printed products are conveyed along spatially curved guide means, at least temporarily in a helical manner, by way of the conveyor means.
- 24 A method according to claim 23, wherein the conveyor means at least in regions is rotated spatially about an axis by at least 180° and thereafter is led past by at least one processing station and subsequently removed from the conveyor means.